

## CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

1           1.       An exhaust system for removing fumes from an endoscope disinfecting apparatus  
2 configured for disinfecting an endoscope with a disinfecting solution, said exhaust system  
3 comprising:

4           a fan housing;

5           a fan disposed within said fan housing;

6           an exhaust hose connected to said fan housing; and

7           wherein said exhaust system is connected to said endoscope disinfecting apparatus.

1           2.       The system of claim 1, wherein said endoscope disinfecting apparatus further  
2 includes a soaking basin and a basin lid, said lid being configured to contain fumes from the  
3 disinfecting solution within a vapor space defined by said lid, said soaking basin, and a surface  
4 of the disinfecting solution.

1           3.       The system of claim 2, wherein said fan housing is connected to said soaking  
2 basin such that said fan is communicatively coupled to said vapor space.

1           4.       The system of claim 3, wherein said fan removes said fumes from said vapor  
2 space and exhausts said fumes through said exhaust hose.

1           5.       The system of claim 2, wherein said fan housing is connected to said lid such that  
2 said fan is communicatively coupled to said vapor space.

1           6.       The system of claim 2, wherein said exhaust system further includes a suction  
2 hose having a first end and a second end, said first end being connected to said soaking basin and  
3 said second end being connected to said fan housing such that said fan is communicatively  
4 coupled to said vapor space.

1           7.       The system of claim 2, wherein said exhaust system further includes a suction  
2 hose having a first end and a second end, said first end being connected to said lid and said  
3 second end being connected to said fan housing such that said fan is communicatively coupled to  
4 said vapor space.

1           8.       The system of claim 2, wherein said exhaust system further includes a plurality of  
2 suction hoses and a plurality of endoscope disinfecting apparati, each of said plurality of suction  
3 hoses communicatively coupling one of said plurality of endoscope disinfecting apparati with  
4 said fan housing.

1           9.       The system of claim 1, wherein said exhaust system further includes a motor for  
2 driving said fan, said motor being disposed within a motor housing, said motor housing being  
3 connected to said fan housing.

1           10.      The system of claim 1, wherein said fan is an electric fan.

1           11.      An exhaust system for removing fumes from an endoscope disinfecting apparatus  
2 configured for disinfecting an endoscope with a disinfecting solution, said exhaust system  
3 comprising:

4           a fume hood to provide a vapor containment space over said endoscope disinfecting  
5 apparatus;

6           a fan housing;

7           a fan disposed within said fan housing;

8           an exhaust hose connected to said fan housing; and

9           wherein said fan housing is communicatively coupled to said fume hood such that fumes  
10 can be removed from said vapor containment space by said exhaust system.

1           12.      The system of claim 11, wherein said fume housing further includes an access  
2 door that permits access to said endoscope disinfecting apparatus for insertion and removal of the  
3 endoscope.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein said fan housing is mounted on said fume hood.

14. The system of claim 11, further including a suction hose having a first end and a second end, said first end being connected to said fume hood and said second end being connected to said fan housing.

15. The system of claim 11, further including a plurality of suction hoses, each of said suction hoses having a first end and a second end, each of said first ends being adapted and configured for attachment to one of said plurality of fume hoods, and each of said second ends being connected to said fan housing.

16. The system of claim 11, wherein said endoscope disinfecting apparatus further comprises:

a disinfecting basin that disinfects an air/water and light tube of the endoscope;

an endoscope body section connected to said disinfecting basin that disinfects a body and eye piece of the endoscope;

an insertion tube section connected to said endoscope body section that disinfects an insertion tube of the endoscope; and

wherein said disinfecting basin is a pouch connected to a side of said endoscope body section.

17. The system of claim 11, wherein said endoscope disinfecting apparatus further comprises:

a disinfecting basin that disinfects an air/water and light tube of the endoscope;

an endoscope body section connected to said disinfecting basin that disinfects a body and eye piece of the endoscope;

an insertion tube section connected to said endoscope body section that disinfects an insertion tube of the endoscope; and

wherein said disinfecting basin is a well connected to a side of said endoscope body section.

1           18.     The system of claim 11, wherein said endoscope disinfecting apparatus further  
2 comprises:  
3           a disinfecting basin that disinfects an air/water and light tube of the endoscope;  
4           an endoscope body section connected to said disinfecting basin that disinfects a body and  
5 eye piece of the endoscope; and  
6           an insertion tube section connected to said endoscope body section that disinfects an  
7 insertion tube of the endoscope, wherein said insertion tube section is coiled.

1           19.     The system of claim 18, wherein said endoscope disinfecting apparatus further  
2 comprises a support cylinder and said insertion tube section is coiled around said support  
3 cylinder.

1           20.     The system of claim 18, wherein said insertion tube section is coiled between ½  
2 and 5 turns.

1           21.     An exhaust system for removing fumes from an endoscope disinfecting apparatus  
2 configured for disinfecting an endoscope with a disinfecting solution, said exhaust system  
3 comprising:

4           a fume hood to provide a vapor containment space over said endoscope disinfecting  
5 apparatus;

6           a fan housing;

7           a fan disposed within said fan housing;

8           an exhaust hose connected to said fan housing; and

9           wherein said fan housing is communicatively coupled to said fume hood such that fumes  
10 can be removed from said vapor containment space by said exhaust system, and wherein said  
11 endoscope disinfecting apparatus includes a support cylinder and an insertion tube section coiled  
12 around said support cylinder.

1           22.    An endoscope disinfecting apparatus comprising:  
2           a disinfecting basin that disinfects an air/water and light tube of the endoscope;  
3           an endoscope body section connected to said disinfecting basin that disinfects a body and  
4           eye piece of the endoscope; and  
5           an insertion tube section connected to said endoscope body section that disinfects an  
6           insertion tube of the endoscope, wherein said insertion tube section is coiled.

1           23.    The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising a support cylinder and wherein said  
2           insertion tube section is coiled around said support cylinder.

1           24.    The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a second endoscope disinfecting  
2           apparatus including a second insertion tube section coiled around said support cylinder.

1           25.    The apparatus of claim 22, wherein a plurality of coils of said insertion tube  
2           section is formed such that each one of said plurality of coils contact each other.

1           26.    The apparatus of claim 22, wherein a plurality of coils of said insertion tube  
2           section includes at least one support strut formed between adjacent of said plurality of coils.